

We are providing support for them, but they are actually the boots on the ground.

The next province here in this country is to the northeast. It is on the border here with Kurdistan, and it is a town called Mosul. It is not a town, it is a city, and there are about 2 million people living there. That is the second largest city, right behind Baghdad, that is still in the hands of ISIS.

Sometime later this year or early next year, we expect to see a full-scale movement by the coalition—led again by the Iraqi forces themselves—to move on Mosul. There is a town here—there is actually a base here about 50 miles southwest of Mosul called Qayyarah, and it is a big Air Force base, and that was taken maybe a month or so ago by the Iraqi forces with our support. There is not only a base there, there is a town that goes with it called Qayyarah, and that town is now in the hands of the Iraqis, and the folks from ISIS have been driven out of Qayyarah. It was really the last major city or town between Baghdad and Mosul that was in the hands of ISIS.

Now we come across the northern part of Iraq over into Syria again to a place called Manbij. This is a pretty good size city. It is very close to the Turkish border. There is another town here on the Turkish border with Syria called Jarabulus. These two places were in the hands of ISIS until very recently. They served almost as a gateway, almost a free flow of ISIS troops, soldiers, or reinforcements coming across the border with Turkey and through Jarabulus and down by Manbij. Both those cities are now in the hands of forces that are in alliance with our coalition.

There is a place here—not as big as Mosul—called Raqqa that is still in the hands of ISIS. They think of it as the spiritual center of their caliphate. My guess is that sometime next year, after Mosul has been taken, full attention will turn to Raqqa. There will be coalition forces coming in from the southwest and folks who we are fighting with in the northeast, and that will be the next big battle.

In the meantime, since the last time I spoke on the Senate floor, a lot of land that ISIS had taken has been retaken. It was less than 50 percent, and now 50 percent or more of the land that ISIS previously held has been retaken.

Again, this is not just the United States. We are playing a constructive role, but the coalition and the Iraqis themselves—some who ran from ISIS—don't run anymore. We were very much encouraged by the courage they have shown.

Among the other things that ISIS took, aside from land, was oil—oil reserves—and they turned that into money. They captured banks. They went right into the treasuries of the banks and safes and vaults and stole a lot of money—hundreds of millions of dollars. A fair amount of that money

has actually been destroyed by airstrikes—literally, cash on fire. I don't know if it is half, but it is a lot of the money, and ISIS's ability to realize more revenues by virtue of oil and by selling oil on the black market has been significantly reduced. The idea there is to starve them and reduce the ability for reinforcements to come in from the north and at the same time to take away their ability to make money and use that money to pay their troops and buy things that they and their forces need to wage a successful war.

So that is a little bit about what is going on in that part of the world. I will mention a couple of other pieces. I don't think we have Libya on this map. Libya is over here, a little to the west and to the south. Imagine it is somewhere over here—probably over here, but we get the drift.

When ISIS is being driven out of this part of the world—out of Iraq and Syria—where do they go? About 50,000 have been killed, over 100 to 200 of their top leaders, including the No. 2 guy who was killed I think last week. Frankly, some are packing up and going home. They see the writing on the wall.

Others are going to different countries. Libya is one of the places ISIS has headed. They settled into a place called Sirte, a big seaport town. We have had a heavy focus working with the Libyan forces to take back Sirte, and a week or two ago the last portion of Sirte was recaptured. I think that is another positive development.

We have terrorist groups in the Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf. And through the air and with aircraft assigned to the carriers, we have been providing that support. The Turks have been good about giving us access to one or more of their bases, so we have the ability to fly aircraft out of there and provide air support for the coalition forces that we have.

One of the other ways that ISIS has been very effective in waging this war, aside from the actual fighting on the battlefield, is fighting that does not occur on a battlefield and is not the kind of battle that you win with guns and bullets and rockets and missiles, but it is the kind of fight that goes on through the Internet and through social media. These guys are pretty good at that. They are not 12 feet tall on the battlefield, as it turns out. We are capable of degrading and destroying them, as the President likes to say. But the ability to actually take them down on the Internet through social media has been more challenging.

Before I get into that, though, I think the last time I spoke here, I mentioned that 2 years ago some 2,000 foreign fighters per month were coming in to this part of the world to be part of the ISIS team—2,000 a month. The last time I reported, I said that number was down to 200 a month. Today, we know that number is down to 50 a month. Part of it is because Jarabulus and Manbij and other towns have pretty

much cut off access to the Turkish border. That is an encouragement. I think I mentioned the last time I was on the floor that 2 years ago maybe 10 Americans a month were coming to this part of the world to join ISIS and to fight. Today, that number is probably down to one per month, one every 2 months. We are encouraged by that.

In cyberspace, I understand there are over 360,000 pro-ISIS twitter accounts that have been taken offline this year. Let me say that again. In cyberspace, over 360,000 ISIS twitter accounts have been taken offline over the past 12 months. For every pro-ISIS twitter account, there are now six anti-ISIS accounts criticizing and challenging ISIS's twisted theology. For a while, the ISIS fighters continued to take their hits on the battlefield and had a good spanking applied to them, but they were still doing well on social media. Not so much anymore. As it turns out, as they move over to places like Libya and try to set up a minicaliphate, we have shown that isn't going to work either.

So on balance, this is going in the right direction. It is not time to spike the football. It is a pretty good coalition working together, and we are starting to hit on all eight cylinders.

I would just say to our troops and to those who are part of the coalition, as we say in the Navy when people do a good job, "Bravo Zulu." We are not going to spike the football yet, but things are very much encouraging. We are grateful for everybody who has helped to make that possible.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

BLACKFEET WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today is a good day for Montana and the Blackfeet people.

With the passage of the Water Resources Development Act, the Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Act is one step closer to the President's desk. Today's action marks the first time the compact has passed the Senate after being introduced four times since 2010.

Today, for the first time, this important legislation came to the Senate for a vote and it passed. I, along with my colleague Senator JON TESTER, worked hard to make sure it made it through this time. The settlement is long overdue and will not only establish the tribe's water rights but will also facilitate real, tangible benefits for the Blackfeet and surrounding communities.

The bill will improve several Federal water structures that are some of the oldest and most in need of repair in the country and will help irrigate some of the most productive farmland in our State. The Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Act also balances the need of the State and the local community.

The Blackfeet Indian Reservation is located adjacent to Glacier National Park and is some 1.5 million acres in size. There are 17,000 enrolled tribal members, about half of whom live on the reservation.

This water settlement also upholds agreements by the State that will strengthen irrigation for neighboring farmlands. We call that Montana's Golden Triangle. It is where my great-great-grandmother homesteaded because of its wheat production.

I commend the Blackfeet Tribe and Chairman Harry Barnes, who have been diligent and patient in seeing this settlement forward. I commend our State for its commitment to the Blackfeet Tribe and Indian Country in Montana and my colleague Senator TESTER for working with me on this bill. I am proud to get this through the Senate and will continue to fight for its enactment.

OBAMACARE

Mr. DAINES. ObamaCare—it is still a train wreck of broken promises. President Obama promised that the cost of premiums would go down by \$2,500 per family. But just yesterday, Montana's insurance commissioner announced an average premium increase of 58 percent for Montana's largest provider on the exchange. And not only have premiums not gone down, the coverage that people get from it is unaffordable and unusable.

With some deductibles at or above \$9,000 per family, middle-class families are being priced out of the market, all the while paying for a policy they simply can't use. Now plans are also restricting provider networks and eliminating doctors from their plans, all in an attempt to remain solvent under ObamaCare's requirements.

In Montana, we like to fish. Sometimes when the fishing line gets really tangled up, the only thing you can do is cut the line. It is time to cut the line with ObamaCare. It is time to clear this train wreck from the tracks and get our health care moving forward again.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

HONORING TIM BRACKEEN

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, today I rise to honor the memory of Tim Brackeen, a K-9 police officer with the Shelby Police Department in North Carolina. Officer Brackeen was tragically killed after succumbing to gunshot wounds he sustained in the line of duty just last week.

On September 10, 2016, Officer Brackeen was doing what he did every day—going to work, trying to put his life in the way of others to keep them safe. He said good-bye to his wife and his family, and he went to work.

Unfortunately, on that day, in the middle of the night, Officer Brackeen

responded to a call to bring a wanted robbery suspect into custody. Officer Brackeen attempted to arrest the suspect. The suspect resisted and opened fire, critically wounding Officer Brackeen.

The people of North Carolina and citizens from across the Nation prayed for Officer Brackeen and his family as he received treatment. Unfortunately, on Monday, we heard the tragic news that Officer Brackeen, only 38 years old, had passed away.

When we lost Officer Brackeen, we lost more than a dedicated K-9 officer who had served the Shelby Police Department for 13 years. Above all else, we lost a devoted husband to his wife Mikel and a loving father to his 4-year-old daughter. He was well known as a loving family man and was deeply respected and admired for the dedication he had to the department and the community which he served. Many had the chance to meet Officer Brackeen during a class or seminar he held with his K-9 partner called Ciko. He was honored as Shelby police officer of the year in 2012.

For anyone in this country who has ever had a trace of doubt over the true character and motivation of the vast majority of brave men and women in law enforcement, Officer Tim Brackeen was exactly the kind of officer who would instantly erase any of those doubts when you met him.

As Officer Brackeen's family, friends, and colleagues mourn this tragic loss, I hope they find comfort in knowing that his death was not in vain. The outpouring of love that we have seen in his honor has been tremendous.

On the night of Officer Brackeen's death, hundreds of people came together in Shelby to hold a vigil outside the police department. Attendees adorned his patrol car with flowers and candles. Shelby police officers all received a standing ovation, and the crowd came together to sing "Amazing Grace." That symbolizes the profound impact that Tim Brackeen had on people's lives and how grateful they are for his selfless service to the community of Shelby.

May God bless Officer Tim Brackeen's family and friends and give them strength in these difficult times. Let them know that the community of Shelby, the people of North Carolina, and Americans from across the Nation will continue to pray for them and stand with them during this difficult time.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

REMEMBERING DR. JOHN BRADEMAS

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor one of Indiana's best, Dr. John Brademas, who passed away on July 11.

John Brademas was an extraordinary public servant and a trailblazing lead-

er. His achievements made a mark on Indiana and on our country that can still be felt today.

John was born a Hoosier in 1927 in Mishawaka, IN, to a Greek immigrant who ran a restaurant and to an Indiana native who worked as a schoolteacher. John Brademas was a star quarterback, and he was the valedictorian at South Bend Central High School.

After high school, he served in the U.S. Navy and in the naval officers' training program at the University of Mississippi. He graduated from Harvard University, and he received a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University in England, where he earned his doctorate.

In 1958, Dr. Brademas was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to the then-Third District of Indiana, where he served with incredible distinction for 22 years, until 1981. In Congress he was always working, always pushing to make life better for Hoosiers and for all Americans.

His colleague, Representative Frank Thompson said:

He never stops. He's incredibly bright, works terribly hard, and is able to translate that brightness into very pragmatic legislative ability.

Dr. Brademas was a leading and effective legislator on issues involving schools, colleges, and universities, services for the elderly and the disabled, and for libraries, museums, the arts, and humanities. It earned him the recognition as "Mr. Arts" and "Mr. Education." He helped lead the successful charge to establish the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. He served as a member of the Committee on Education and Labor, writing Federal legislation on schools at every level.

He was instrumental in passing landmark legislation, including the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. This sought to increase opportunities for economically disadvantaged children and provided unprecedented Federal support for education. Dr. Brademas was the author in 1975 of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, which for the first time provided Federal support and guaranteed nationwide educational opportunities for students with mental and physical disabilities.

Additionally, Dr. Brademas was pivotal in efforts to improve higher education and boost grants and aid for student loans. John is also remembered for his support to advance civil rights and social justice.

During his last 4 years in Congress, Dr. Brademas served as House majority whip. Following his congressional service, Dr. Brademas served as the president of New York University, or NYU, one of the largest private institutions in the country, until 1992. During his tenure, he led NYU's transformation from a local commuter school into a national and world-renowned research university.